

Park Newsletter

JUNE 3 1974 Community Affairs File
Shows Progress
Parks and Recreation Vigos Co

A progress report on county parks is featured in the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department's Newsletter No. 5, just off the mimeograph.

The informal and informative "annual report" was prepared by Supt. Keith Ruble. At Fowler Park, park personnel have recently completed a Stran Steel lean-to for storage of equipment and accessories. This addition is to the present maintenance building.

A new approach to picnic table maintenance features treatment of some existing tables with a new wood preservative. Called a salt treatment, the new procedure is expected to cut down on maintenance costs. In past years, tables were sanded and stained every winter. The salt treatment is non-toxic and will not bleed like creosote.

Planning continues on the pioneer village at the entrance to Fowler Park. A log cabin donated by Ber. Lidster will be erected in the spring, the second structure at the site. Drawings of the proposed pioneer village will be available soon.

Along with the pioneer village theme, a fort-type playground constructed of wood beams is planned near the picnic shelter. Wood will be purchased locally and will receive the salt preservation treatment at Western Tar.

Park equipment is being cleaned and overhauled to prepare for next summer.

The Glenn Recreation Center has been getting an excellent response from county residents this fall, serving around 100 or more people daily, mostly children, the report said. Activities include basketball, volleyball and gymnastics for pre-schoolers in the gymnasium, and arts and crafts, oil painting, Jog obedience, weight lifting, pre-school activities and table games. Six other activities are scheduled beginning in January.

The Glenn Center opened in December 1972, with the center director on a part-time pay status. The Park Department is considering asking the County Council for funds for a full-time recreation person to direct the Glenn Center and other county recreation programs if county residents feel one is needed.

Prairie Creek construction is a little behind schedule. Buildings are being completed, roads have all been given a base with compacted aggregate and the pond is completed except for some dragline work to remove soil and brush in the old pond site. Bids for power and water lines were rejected because they were too high.

The 20-acre single purpose watershed is completely filled, due to heavy rains. A swimming area has been constructed. About 300 or more maple trees will be moved from the south area and planted throughout the park. Local Boy Scouts are assisting in clearing debris and brush away from the small trees before they are dug.

Work on the New Goshen Schoolhouse is in progress, with the south room "really shaping up," according to the newsletter. The walls have been given two coats of paint and the missing windows replaced and caulked. Bricks for the window casings will come from the old Mission Building on Arleth Street.

Playground equipment will be ordered soon for the schoolhouse yard. Future plans include a small picnic area with outdoor shelter and ovens.

During the Banks of the Wabash Festival, May 31 through June 2, a Park and Recreation Day will be held June 3. Bus tours of city and county parks are planned on this day. During the festival, activities will be scheduled each day at one of the county parks.

City Parks Chief Dougherty Tells Duties, Responsibilities

5 JAN 25 1974

By RICHARD C. TUTTLE

Star Staff Writer

Parks in Terre Haute were first mentioned in records of the City Council in 1905. Pat Dougherty, superintendent of the Terre Haute Department of Parks and Recreation, remarked in an interview Thursday.

"However, the park department, as such, evidently 'grew like Topsy' over the years without benefit of legislation," he continued. "The Indiana General Assembly passed an enabling act in 1923 with reference to establishing park departments. The Terre Haute City Council failed to approve a local ordinance creating the department, but the department generally functioned as the act outlined."

+ + +

A state legislative act passed in 1965 had enabling provisions

permitting a city to establish a park and recreation department, and included qualifications for the superintendent. The City Council established the department under provisions of the 1965 act in an ordinance passed in 1973.

"It was necessary that the city operate under either the

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1965 or 1923 acts to be eligible for federal funding from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation," Dougherty explained. "The department is now legal, and we have qualified for federal funds, in particular funds for the new golf course received only late in 1973."

The department operates under a board of four serving four-year staggered terms. The members are appointed by the mayor. Present members of the board are John Valle, president; Kenneth Coy, vice president; William Moliken, secretary; and Lawrence "Dutch" Letzkus, a former park superintendent.

Other than Dougherty, the department has 23 full-time employees which increases to approximately 100 during spring and summer months. Director of maintenance is John Palmer.

+ + +

There are 19 parks for which the department is responsible, with a total of 721 acres. This includes 46 acres of boulevard, on Ohio from Nineteenth St. to Fruitridge Ave. There are 11

tennis courts at Ren and Collett parks, three swimming pools and the 18-hole municipal golf course at Rea Park.

"Although we are fortunate in that most of our neighborhoods have parks, there are one or two where parks are needed," Dougherty commented. "The Terre Town area has no park within reasonable distance, nor does the southeast section of the city."

The three types of parks are block, which is primarily playground; the neighborhood park, which is somewhat larger and has picnic facilities, possibly a games area; and the community park, such as Deming, Dobbs, Collett, Voorhees.

During summer months, the department sponsors recreation programs in the city parks.

"Graduate physical education and recreation majors, and physical education instructors on summer vacation, are hired to manage the program," the superintendent explained. "The county schools also have a similar program, but these activities are on school property only."

GENERAL

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Supt. Ruble Notes Vigo Park Goals

TS MAR 10 1974
By CAROLYN TOOPS
Tribune Staff Writer

Spring is almost here, and the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department is preparing for the coming season as well as the future. Supt. Keith Ruble has released details of a short-range (six months) and a longer plan (two years) setting out goals and priorities for the department.

The two action plans were based upon the Comprehensive Park and Recreation Master Plan for the city of Terre Haute and Vigo County, which was completed in 1972.

Ruble explained that the purpose of the Master Plan is to determine and set priorities for park and recreation development based upon the supply, demand for park and recreation facilities for city and county residents.

By doing so, Ruble continued, the Master Plan states, step by step, the order of priorities for development. It is also the first requirement before federal funds can be received from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, he noted.

Along with the Master Plan, several other agencies and influential individuals have helped the City of Terre Haute and Vigo County gain approval for federal funds for projects.

Since the plan's completion, it has enabled the City Park and Recreation Department to match the generous gift from the Hulman Foundation of a cash donation of \$268,300 plus the \$226,700 land value, for an 18-hole golf course and recreational complex east of Terre Haute.

Having the Master Plan has enabled the County Park Department to receive \$63,400 to match for the construction of Prairie Creek Park, scheduled to be open about June 1.

The total amounts to \$558,400 federal matching funds for park

and recreation development in Vigo County.

The Comprehensive Master Plan was prepared by the county park staff with assistance from John Sheehan, formerly with the Area Plan Department and now with the West Central Indiana Economic Development District. The plan is an update of the 1967 Vigo County Master Plan that included only the county area. The new plan includes the city too, thereby assuring its eligibility for federal assistance.

The Master Plan is a five-year plan with 20-year increments, with priorities set on the basis of population trends, population density, needs and voids of park and recreation development. The plan has an action program from 1972-1977, known as Phase I, and from 1977-1982, Phase II, with the basic funding from donations or gifts, federal assistance and county and city funds.

The six-month plan includes:

—Creation of tree nursery for county park system, March.

—Completion of county bicycle trails serving all four corners of the county, early April.

—Installation of playground equipment and improvement of picnic facilities at New Goshen School, April, and preservation of the school as a historical site and for meetings and recreational use, May completion.

—Unique playground construction at Fowler and Prairie Creek Parks, with completion scheduled in early May.

—Shower and restroom facilities, stationary diving platform and renovation of concession stand at Fowler Park, completion by May.

—Completion of Prairie Creek Park, end of May or early June.

—Creation of new, county recreation program for target areas, including outlying towns not presently served with recreation facilities.

The longer range action plan for the next two years provides for:

—Continuation of development of Pioneer Village and Pioneer Festival at Fowler Park.

—Assistance to local schools in the development of outdoor natural study areas adjacent to school buildings.

—Acquisition and development of property in West Terre Haute area or Otter Creek for a future multi-purpose park.

—Acquisition of possible natural area in north central part of Vigo County for preservation of blue stem prairie grass.

—Community Recreation Center, West Terre Haute area, 1974-1976.

—Establishment of walnut planting forest and management of certain forested area in Prairie Creek Park for educational value for county landowners to encourage good forest management.

Two artists in residence at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College have been working with the county park department in designing the unique adventure playgrounds to be installed at Fowler and Prairie Creek Parks. They are Charles Gibson and Father Bert Dieter.

The equipment will be specially treated wood beams and will include fireman's pole, slide and cargo net, to give the children a chance to climb and walk on, to simply enjoy.

And, as the Prairie Creek Park nears completion, an agreement on its operation has been reached by the County Park Department and the Prairie Creek-Vigo Conservancy District.

Park Board president Max G. Miller and Lloyd B. Deutsch, chairman of the Conservancy District, have signed a memorandum of agreement after six months of discussion on the document.

Under the agreement, it will be the mutual responsibility of

both organizations to promote public interest and support comprehensive plans for the orderly use and development of natural resources in the area.

The conservancy district comprises some 19,000 acres in southwestern Vigo County and has completed three flood control structures including a 30-acre lake.

Park and conservancy district officials will jointly conduct an annual inspection of the dam, emergency, spillway and outlet area of the lake, and review usage of the park to determine any adverse conditions which are detrimental to the purpose of the lake.

The memorandum stipulates that the park board will inform the district of planning and work with the district to develop a program of effective cooperation.

It will be the responsibility of the park department also to:

—Police refuse in and around the lake resulting from park usage.

—Develop the park with sediment-control measures and stabilizations of the area as set forth in a Resource conservation Plan developed with the assistance of the Vigo County Soil and Water Conservation District.

—Submit all proposed construction plans with the district to district officials for their review.

—The conservancy district will be responsible to:

Inform the park board of future plans of the district to develop a program of effective co-operation and any proposed changes or amendments to the district's plan.

—Maintain the dam, emergency, spillway and outlet area with assistance of the park department.

—Review all construction plans for future developments to safeguard against severe sediment damage or any other measure which would adversely affect the lake.

—Submit to the park board all major construction plans involving the district's works of improvement for review by the board.

GENERAL

Park Dept. Project Bids Under Study

MAR 25 1974

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department will award bids within the next few days for several improvement projects. Bids were read by Supt. Keith Ruble Monday morning.

Max Miller, president of the county park board; Susan McCarthy board member and county attorney Fred Bauer were also present for the session.

Roach Construction Co. was the low bidder on the New Goshen School, for \$7,200. Newlin Johnson Development Co. submitted a bid of \$13,242.

On Fowler Park restrooms, Roach bid \$11,165 and Newlin Johnson \$14,754.

On electric work at Prairie Creek Park, Sunbeam Electric submitted the apparent low bid of \$10,167, for the total work specified.

Other bidders were AAA Electric, base bid \$11,000, total of \$14,000 including one alternate; Sycamore Engineering, \$20,000 base bid; and Potter Electric, \$19,960 total.

Specifications call for the completion of the electrical and water systems by early May, so that the county parks may be opened by the end of the month.

Next meeting of the county park board will be on Wednesday, April 17 at 4 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building.

THE TRIBUNE, TERRE HAUTE,

Community Affairs File Park Dept. Accepts Bids For Parks

MAR 28 1974

The Vigo County Park and Recreation Department has awarded bids for work at New Goshen School and Fowler and Prairie Creek parks.

Roach Construction Company will begin construction within a week on restrooms and showers at Fowler Park. The bid was for \$11,165.

Roach also received the bid for restoration of New Goshen School, for \$7,200.

Sunbeam Electric was awarded the bid for work at the county's new Prairie Creek Park, amounting to \$10,617, and is expected to begin in less than two weeks. The specifications require that the water and electrical work be done before the park season officially opens at the end of May.

Bids were opened Monday in the Park Department's office.

Reyher Rec Director

Community Affairs File

Terre Haute Strengthens

TS APR 28 1974

By JAMES McHARGUE
Tribune Staff Writer

The Terre Haute Park and Recreation Department will undergo some changes and implement several new programs this summer, according to superintendent Pat Dougherty.

The recreation program will be overhauled and considerably expanded under the direction of recently-appointed Recreation Director Mike Reyher.

The ambitious recreation

program will be carried out without additional appropriations, Dougherty added.

Reyher said he has started from scratch in designing the recreation program. He explained why the city has branched out into the recreation area:

"For several years, the Vigo County School Corporation has slowly, but surely, been withdrawing from its summer recreation program. Last year they pulled out of all programs.

"It used to be a joint effort

between the city and the schools, with the corporation furnishing the instructors and personnel needed for such a program.

"Now that the school corporation has completely pulled out, it's up to the city to furnish a recreation program for persons during the summer."

The newest recreation program will be a neighborhood park playground program, according to Reyher. These will be designed to entertain and teach youngsters living around five neighborhood

parks and relieve the parents of the duty of transporting the children to and from an area.

The five parks in which the program will be offered are Collett, Herz Rose, Sheridan, Thompson and Voorhees.

Two recreation majors from Indiana State University will staff each park and supervise all activities. The playground program will last for 10 weeks and from the first week in June through the latter part of August.

New playground equipment is being installed at the

parks, according to Dougherty, to insure adequate and safe facilities for the youngsters participating in the program.

Other recreation programs will include instruction and participation in golf, tennis, baseball, softball, swimming and archery.

Major physical changes will be made at Dobbs Park; site of the new arboretum (an area with a wide variety of trees native to Indiana) and nature study area, Dougherty said.

Park Program

"Dobbs has already been marked off for the nature study area and arboretum," explained Dougherty. "This summer will see the beginning of construction on the observation house."

The park superintendent said the maintenance shop will be moved from Dobbs to Deming Park soon. When completed, the arboretum and nature study area will be called, "The Terre Haute Park and Recreation Department Environmental Education Center," said Dougherty.

Dobbs will be staffed by Ronald Helms, a graduate student in life sciences at Indiana State University. Helms will be there to answer any questions regarding fauna or other nature items.

Dougherty said he expects school classes and student groups to take advantage of the arboretum, which will have every tree native to Indiana available for study.

Deming Park's back gates will be closed permanently because of many persons who in the past sped through the

park on their way east, said Dougherty.

The train ride, pony ride, animal exhibits and concession stand will all be open again this summer.

The Terre Haute Jaycees staff and reap the reward of the concession stand.

Dougherty said that he and the West Central Indiana Economic Development District (WCIEDD) are currently preparing a grant application to the federal Bureau of Outdoor

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Park Program

Continued From Page One.

Recreation for monies to further improve the city parks.

"The WCIEDD has cooperated 100 per cent and so has the city council," said Dougherty. "The council is very receptive to appropriating the needed matching funds to enable us to receive the use of federal monies."

Dougherty praised maintenance director John Palmer for the good job being done on the upkeep and beautification of the parks.

He said official opening day will be May 1, but on nice days the gates are opened now. Closing time, beginning May 8, will be 10 p.m. and opening will be at 8 a.m.

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NEW RECREATION DIRECTOR—Mike Reyher, left, has assumed the duties of recreation director for the Terre Haute Park Department. Reyher will work on a complete new recreation program at the parks under the supervision of Pat Dougherty, right, park superintendent.

House of Photography Photo.

Vigo County Offers Many Fishin' Holes

T MAY 17 1974

The fisherman who said that you need a private pond or lake to catch fish wasn't talking about Vigo County.

Cars are needed to reach many of these bodies of water, but some are within walking distance of a bus line—namely Walton Lake in West Terre Haute.

Yes, there's no need to worry about the energy crisis in Vigo County if you're talking about fishing and picnicking. Here's a review of some of the available spots—

FAMILY OUTINGS are ideal

for Dobbs and Fowler Parks. Dobbs is a city park on East Poplar Street that has a playground, two large picnic shelters, pine groves with picnic tables, camping sites and a small lake. Bank fishing only is permitted but it is safe for youngsters and the lake is stocked with bass, bluegill and channel catfish.

FOWLER PARK, eight miles south of Terre Haute and two miles east of U.S. 41, is a 140-acre county park with a 25-acre man-made lake. Beautiful camping sites adjacent to inlets

on the east side, picnic areas and a supervised beach on the west, combine with a good fishing lake to make Fowler Park a good family park. Boats can be rented, and there is a ramp for privately owned boats. Electric motors only permitted. Concession stand, public telephone and rest rooms available.

SOUTH LAKE, south of West Terre Haute, is privately-owned lake for swimming, fishing and boating, including boat rental. It is one of several lakes directly affected by the level of the Wabash River, and offers every conceivable kind of fresh-water midwestern fish.

JUST NORTH of West Terre Haute is Izaak Walton Lake, another natural pool with facilities similar to South Lake. Gasoline motors are permitted at both areas.

GREEN VALLEY State Fish and Game Area, three miles west of St. Mary-of-the-Woods is a state-owned and managed 31-acre lake with a boat ramp, rest rooms, picnic sites and primitive camping sites. The man-made lake is clear and deep, and the bass and bluegill fishing is excellent, especially in the spring. Ninety-one acres of state land surround the lake.

THE GREENFIELD BAYOU is a natural river pool southwest of Princeton. Boats can be rented, and there are several privately-owned camps and cottages around the lake.

OTTER CREEK, from Mill Dam at North Terre Haute through Burnett and into neighboring Clay County, is a challenging tributary navigable by shallow-drift boats or canoes. It is challenging because smallmouth bass do live in the shallow stream but are extremely wary.

THE STICK PITS, three miles south and two and three miles west of Riley, are strip-pits, or terminal lakes left from surface mining operations. The Peabody Coal Company graciously lets the public use them, but only electric motors are permitted. Powerless boats, of course, are welcome, but due to the steep banks and dropoffs bank fishing is limited. The water is clear and deep, an ideal habitat for bass, bluegill and crappies.

HARTMAN LAKE near Youngstown is a former WPA pond where only bank fishing is permitted. No facilities are offered at either Hartman's or the Stick Pits, and your best bet on locating them is to get in the general neighborhood and ask directions.

IN ADDITION to these public fishing areas, there are numerous private lakes in Vigo County. If you know the right people you're in luck. For further information stop at the sporting goods stores and bait shops. You will find the proprietors helpful and friendly.

JUST TWO REQUESTS. Leave some of the big ones for the rest of us fishermen in Vigo County, and take all the paper, cans and glass bottles home that you bring with you. Please keep our fishing sites clean.

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'Room for Improvement'

Recreation Expert

Ts JUN 9 1974

By JAMES McHARGUE
Tribune Staff Writer

Area recreation programs have improved dramatically during the past two years, but there is still much room for improvement, according to the chairman of Indiana State University's department of recreation.

Dr. Gerald O'Morrow, in a recent interview, said since he first came to the city six years ago recreation programs in the city and county park systems have gone "from nothing to something."

ISU's recreation department has also gone "from nothing to something" in the past eight years.

The department was begun in 1965 and there are now 260 students majoring in the recreation field at ISU. It is one of the few departments still increasing the number of its majors and is seemingly taking the exact opposite course of the school as a whole.

The department is fast becoming known throughout the Midwest as one of the best and has, in some educators' opinions, already surpassed Indiana University's undergraduate program.

O'Morrow explained that the recreation field rises in importance each year as Americans work shorter hours, work shorter weeks and generally have more time and money.

"Recreation is very important to the physical, social and emotional well-being of an individual," noted O'Morrow. "All of us have to let off steam or utilize our creativity."

The educator said the recreation field includes more than sports and sometimes programs are too sports oriented and offer nothing to a person in the area of arts and crafts.

There is also O'Morrow's specialty, therapeutic recreation—work with the handicapped, either physically, emotionally or mentally.

"The therapeutic recreation field is very rewarding and

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Looks at Area Parks

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interesting," said O'Morrow. "It is utilized in institutions such as prisons, hospitals, etc."

The departmental chairman said the recreation program of the Terre Haute city parks, under the direction of Mike Reyher, recreation head, and Pat Dougherty, superintendent, has improved vastly during the past two years.

"Pat (Dougherty) and Mike (Reyher) are trying to leap-frog the recreation program forward," said O'Morrow, "but they are facing the very serious problems of starting from scratch and a too small budget."

"We've seen the beginnings of the complete rehabilitation of the neighborhood park system in this city in the past two years," commented O'Morrow. "And the instigation of a recreation program, which is small now, but with proper funding, will grow into a full-fledged program."

O'Morrow also praised the decision to make Dobbs Park a nature area and arboretum. When completed, the

arboretum will enable persons to study every type of tree native to Indiana.

He said Terre Haute still ranks low when compared to similar cities in regard to recreation programs, but with the right support the local program could become top-notch.

O'Morrow said the Vigo County park system, under the direction of Keith Ruble, is still struggling to establish itself completely, but there are some wonderful plans and ideas in the works.

The county parks are operating under the guidance of a master plan, O'Morrow noted. He said Ruble has an excellent plan for a portable playground and movable swimming tank.

O'Morrow added the county parks are utilizing a heritage theme by placing log cabins, covered bridges, etc. in the parks.

Continued On Page 24, Col. 2.

Recreation Scene

Ts JUN 9 1974 Continued From Page One.

The educator said the recreation programs at the Glenn Recreation Center have been a success and encouraged further development of the facility.

He said one area in which local recreation programs must expand is adult programs. O'Morrow followed that statement with another point—adults and youngsters alike must participate in the programs offered.

"One mistake people have made, however," said O'Morrow. "Is to gauge a program's success by the number of persons participating. What's important is what the participants get out of the program."

2 Woods Students Working On Park Maintenance Crew

Parks and Recreation (Vigo Co.)
T JUN 12 1974 Community Affairs File

By MARY ANNE PIERCE

Tribune Staff Writer

"Hey, fella" has caused many a caller to do a double take at Fowler Park this summer where two St. Mary of the Woods students are employed as maintenance crewmembers."

Bridget Carpenter, New Port Richie, Fla., and Debbie Lehaert, South Bend, decided to take a break from classroom confinement and inside jobs for some fresh air employment. They found it on the Vigo Park and Recreation Dept. crew.

Claiming no strong ties with any women's lib movement, Bridget and Debbie are proving themselves liberated, however, as they respond to orders to dig ditches, drive tractors, mow weeds and the like.

"It's great therapy... makes you feel really good," commented Bridget, as she took her leather work gloves from her hip pocket and prepared to cover her manicured nails before tackling the next task. She was graduated from the Woods this spring and plans a career in advertising arts this fall.

Debbie, whose slight build is no indication of her strength park supervisors claim, is a junior at the women's college west of the river. While Bridget went to town Tuesday for plumbing fittings, she continued to dig the ditch for the waterlines to the new showers under construction in the camping area.

Neither of them has complained much of sore muscles or blisters from the work but

Bridget is nursing a couple of blisters on her heel caused by her new logging boots. They are finding poison ivy to be the only job hazard so far.

Friends and relatives have had much fun with their new jobs, although Bridget admits some of her older relatives "are a little shocked."

The idea for the jobs came on the spur of the moment when

they were visiting friends at Fowler. A talk with Keith Ruble, director of the department, led to information about job openings and soon they were signed up and on the payroll.

Chet Burkeybyle, assistant director, is well pleased with their work so far. He tells one amusing story about the day he took them up to New Goshen School to work and a nearby resident asked, "How are you guys today?"

Bridget passes such comments off with: "as long as we can get dressed up once in awhile we still feel feminine."

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ONE, TWO, THREE, HEAVE--Bridget Carpenter and Debbie Lehaert add muscle power to work at Fowler Park where they are the only two women assigned to the maintenance crew. House of Photography Photo.

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Parks Offering

Ts JUN 16 1974 Ts JUN 16 1974

Summertime Fun

Parks & Recreation (Vigo Co.)

For Youngsters

By JAMES McHARGUE
Tribune Staff Writer

City park recreation director Mike Reyher today announced the implementation of youngsters at five neighborhood parks.

Reyher said the programs will involve physical game activities and arts and crafts for youngsters of school and pre-school age.

"The reason we are having them in the neighborhood parks is so the youngsters won't need a ride to get to the activities," said Reyher. "They'll be able to walk there."

The recreation programs, which are being conducted on weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., are at Sheridan, Voorhees, Collett, Thompson and Herz-Rose parks in the city.

There are two adults at each park to supervise and lead the activities. Reyher said all adult recreation workers may be identified by the bright red baseball cap each is wearing.

"All recreation workers throughout the park system wear these red hats," said Reyher. "That way they are easily identified by both children and parents."

The recreation director, a graduate of the Indiana State University department of recreation, said activities offered in the parks include softball, tetherball, general creative arts and crafts, musical programs, etc.

The persons in charge at the parks include Mike Burris, Joanne Burris, Thompson; John Allen, Margaret Vidal, Collett; Ken Phillips, Mary McGuire, Sheridan; Steven French, Kurt Phillips, Rose, and Gary Snodgrass, Judy Smith, Voorhees.

"These people are qualified, good leaders and counselors with children," said Reyher. "The children will have no problem communicating and having fun with them."

Reyher said a special event day will be set aside each week at each location for contests and unusual games for the youngsters.

"For instance," he noted, "This week we're having a bubblegum blowing contest. There will be five or six winners from each park."

He said at the end of the summer, all the winners of all contests in prior weeks will be hosted for a special day at Deming Park where grand champions in each event will be decided and rewarded.

Reyher also announced appointments of personnel for other city summer recreation programs.

At Spencer Field for the baseball program is Charles Potts, who headed the program there last year.

Potts is being assisted by Dan Kunkle, Robin Nicolson, Gary McCabe, Barry Miller and Tony Burk. Each worker aids in helping the teams and players at the ball park.

There are four tennis instructors, two at Collett Park and two at Rea Park. At both places, someone is on duty from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The tennis workers are Dave Collins and Steve Maehling, Collett, and Bill Tipton and Jan Everhart, Rea.

The softball program at Memorial Park is under the direction of Wayne Myers. He is being assisted by Dick Duby.

There is a corps of lifeguards at the Sheridan, Voorhees and Deming park pools. The supervisors are Alan Selge, Deming; Susan Nantrup, Sheridan, and Allison Moore, Voorhees.

Reyher said anyone is invited to take advantage of the recreation programs.

The programs in the neighborhood parks are strictly informal and all a youngster need do is show up. There is no registration or fees, just a good time, Reyher said.

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BUBBLE GUMMERS—These young men were just a few of the participants in the city park recreation program bubble gum blowing contest. The new program will have other unusual events as the summer progresses. The winners will compete at Deming Park at the end of the summer to decide the grand champion.

Martin Photo.

Varied Items Discussed by Vigo Park Board

JUN 18 1974
By CAROLYN TOOPS

Tribune Staff Writer

A discussion of park and recreation facilities for residents of Vigo County west of the Wabash River highlighted the monthly meeting of the County Park and Recreation Board Monday afternoon at the American Red Cross Building.

The possibility of the Green Valley State Fish and Game Area being taken over by the county park department was opposed by a delegation from the area headed by Jack Ross.

Previously, the suggestion had been made that the county operate the facility — now used for fishing and camping — as a multipurpose park.

Supt. Keith Ruble explained that the State Department of Natural Resources was apparently willing to give the county a long term lease on Green Valley, but would continue to manage and treat the lake and dam, transferring supervisory duties to the county.

If made into a multi-purpose park, presumably additional land would have to be acquired. At Green Valley now, of the 140 acres, 36 are water.

Supporting more recreational facilities for Sugar Creek Township as a whole, including "pocket parks" (one is planned on S. 7th St. in West Terre Haute) and the county's operation of Green Valley was Lee Fields.

Ross submitted a petition to the Park Board, with about 400 names of people who want to keep Green Valley "as is."

Dorothy Drummond submitted petitions with about 600 signers, asking the board for additional recreational facilities for Sugar Creek and Fayette residents. No specific recommendations were made. Mrs. Drummond said that Dr. Tom Songster was making a feasibility study of multi-purpose recreational facilities west of the river and that this would probably be completed by the next board meeting.

She also said that as a result of efforts devoted to the Banks-of-the-Wabash Festival, the "PERC" committee was suggesting that the board consider purchasing the old Valentine Packing property and make it into a boat launching site.

The possibility of the county departments acquiring the recently abandoned Concannon School was also discussed but no action was taken. The Vigo County School Corporation is in the process of having the property appraised before disposing of it.

Other discussion concerned the construction of concrete versus asphalt tennis courts at the new Prairie Creek Park. The three board members present decided to take no action until the next meeting. Max Miller, president; Fox Burns and Boyd Schepper attended. Absent were

John Etling, Susan McCarthy and Everett Spence.

Supt. Ruble gave a brief progress report on the six-month plan. Completed are the new tree nursery, the bicycle trails, new playground at Fowler Park, and stationary diving platform at Fowler Parks.

Work is nearing completion at New Goshen. Playground equipment has been installed and rest room facilities are needed. Prairie Creek Park is about 80 per cent. completed.

Ruble said
Also attending the session as observers were five Indiana State University students.

The 1975 budget will be discussed at the July board meeting.

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Community Affairs File

Ts JUN 23 1974 Community Affairs File

Day Camp Aids Special Children

Recreation (H #11)

By MARY DAILEY
Youth Correspondent

Making friends, caring, having fun, and enjoying new experiences are the primary purposes of Happiness Day Camp for special children.

Camp provides physical development for children in swimming, sports, and games. Creativeness in the campers is encouraged

through nature study and arts and crafts.

The various activities are supervised by college graduate students, while high school volunteers work on a one-to-one basis with the children.

A typical day at camp begins with a flag ceremony and the singing of several short camp songs.

Following that, the campers, divided into different

groups, begin their respective activities. These may include nature study, arts and crafts, rhythms, sports and games, or swimming.

Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m., followed by an hour rest period for the children. During this hour, the counselors also have free time of their own.

The afternoon schedule begins at 1 p.m. and continues until approximately 2:45 p.m.

At that time, an afternoon snack is served and the children prepare to catch the bus back to the Children's Learning Center.

Stuffed animal mobiles, potato prints, paper bag puppets, and string painting are only a few of the many art projects the children enjoy.

Nature study includes taking hikes, seeing slide shows,

Continued On Page 44, Col. 4.



DAY CAMP IS SINGING—Pam DiLavore accompanies young singers at the Happiness Day Camp on the guitar. The youths who attend the camp sing both old camp songs and learn new selections. Listening to records, playing musical games, dancing, and putting on plays are other activities in which the children are involved.

Ts JUN 23 1974

Day Camp

Continued From Page 43.

and studying various types of leaves and insects.

Sports and games provide a wide range of activities including playing softball, kickball, basketball, jumping on the trampoline, and using the playground equipment.

Swimming combines water instruction with pleasure, to assure fun for everyone.

Singing old camp songs and learning new ones, listening to records, playing musical games, dancing, and putting on plays are part of the rhythms program.

A special treat for the campers is a visit by the Happiness Bag Players every Tuesday morning.

The Happiness Bag Players entertain the children, as well as encourage them to participate in their varied activities.

Happiness Day Camp provides meaningful experiences for special children. The counselors are pleased when they see the many achievements of the children throughout the week and all agree that camp is a rewarding way to spend the summer.

Camp is conducted annually at the Fresh Air Camp facilities in West Terre Haute and is directed by Dr. Thomas Songster.

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Special Collections



DAY CAMP IS PHYSICAL FUN—Kent Lemmon enjoys the trampoline at the Happiness Day Camp as a counselor supervisor. Softball, kickball, and basketball are other physical activities that are available at the camp.



DAY CAMP IS ARTS AND CRAFTS—Beth Grimes, arts and crafts counselor at the Happiness Day Camp, assists Theresa Phillips with a stuffed animal mobile. The mobiles, along with potato prints, paper bag puppets, and string painting, are just a few of the many art projects the youngsters can enjoy at the camp.

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Memorial Garden

Sought at Garfield

T AUG 7 1974

By CAROLYN TOOPS
Tribune Staff Writer

Petitions for a proposed memorial garden on the site of the Garfield High School and against the construction of a fence around Dobbs Park were presented to the City Park and Recreation Board during the regular monthly meeting Tuesday afternoon.

The Garfield delegation, led by the Rev. Stanley Howell and Mrs. Elizabeth Nattkemper, presented a list of 750 names

Park Recreation (Village Co.)

they said were in support of a memorial garden, rather than a so-called park, honoring those who died for the community during wartime.

Mrs. Nattkemper said that many Garfield classes had presented living memorials—trees, shrubbery and flowering plants—and that these had been all taken out when the property was sold.

The memorial garden spot as proposed would be about 100 feet north of Maple Avenue and north of the gymnasium to 12th St. Pat Dougherty, park super-

intendent, was asked by the board to approach the owner of the property about acquiring land for the memorial garden and also to investigate the possibility of matching funds.

Residents of Lincolnshire subdivision, which forms one boundary of Dobbs Park, object to the proposed six-foot chain link fence to be erected around part of the park. Their petition carried names of about 100 persons, it was reported.

In the Lincolnshire delegation at the Park Board meeting were William Kern, Dave Turney, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Etheridge and Beverly Hanks.

Park Superintendent Dougherty said that the fence is needed

Continued On Page 3, Col. 5.

Memorial

Cont. T AUG 7 1974 One.

to keep out vandals and that park facilities have been misused by persons with horses and motorcycles.

Future plans call for Dobbs Park to be an environmental education center as proposed by terms of the donor's will, Dougherty said.

The proposed fence will run along the Lincolnshire and Woodridge subdivisions but will not be erected along the stretch on Highway 46, Dougherty said, where a regular rail fence will be constructed instead. In response to remarks that the fence would be an eyesore, Dougherty said the city would plant vines and shrubbery that would eventually grow to cover it.

Another objection to the fence from the Lincolnshire group was that fire protection would be impeded if the fence were constructed, as the woods of the park border the landowner's property.

The park board decided to watch the problem of vandalism at Dobbs Park for a few months before making a decision on the fence.

Also discussed by the board were planned improvements for Fairbanks Park, with the hope that much can be accomplished before next year's Banks-of-the-Wabash festival. Discussion centered on taking out the road in the park and providing parking on the periphery.

Also, the pillars from the old First Baptist Church, which were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Blumberg several years ago, will be used to create sculptures that will be placed along the river.

Other current park plans call for building Brittlebank Parks, north and south, from a bequest of \$89,000 from the late Julius Brittlebank, as well as construction of an 18-hole golf course east of the city.

Park board members attending the meeting were Kenneth Coy, William Moliken, Lucile Enders and Lawrence Letzkus.

Community Affairs File

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Park Renovation Community Affairs File Plan Progresses

T SEP 25 1974

The renovation of all neighborhood parks in Terre Haute is being planned by the City Park and Recreation Department, according to Mike Reyher, director of recreation.

The Herz-Rose Park at Locust and 16th streets and Thompson Park at 17th and Oak streets now are receiving new playground equipment as part of the project.

These two parks are expected to be completed this fall with Voorhees Park at Lockport Road and Voorhees St. and Sheridan at 28th Street and Beach to be completed next spring.

According to Patrick Dougherty, superintendent of the Park and Recreation Department, the playground equipment will be the first new equipment in over 30 or 40 years to be added to the city's 19 parks. He said that Deming Park has had some new playground equipment added by the Jaycees but not the city.

Completed now at Herz-Rose and Thompson parks are basketball courts. These courts will be flooded in the winter to double as ice skating rinks. Voorhees and Sheridan parks eventually will have this double duty-feature added.

New tennis courts have been poured at Collett Park. They are not ready yet to be played on though. The courts probably will not be finished until next spring, according to Dougherty.

The parks will all be restructured, according to Reyher. This involves a complete change in the parks. All the old equipment will be taken

out or relocated and new equipment will be added.

A key factor in redesigning a park is color, Reyher said. "A colorful park enhances people to go into it," he added.

The remodeled parks will be a place for children and older people, Reyher stated. Segregated from the playground equipment will be quiet areas set aside for older people with such things as glider-type swings and horseshoe pitching locations.

"The restructuring of the parks will be a great help to planning and programming of recreation activities for the city," Reyher said. The recreation department was added to the City Parks Department this summer.

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Community Affairs File
Rural Park Plan
OCT 29 1974
Under Study
OCT 29 1974
For Small Towns

By CAROLYN TOOPS
Tribune Staff Writer

Prairieton and Fontanet may be the next Vigo County communities to benefit through a Pilot Rural Recreation Program that is being considered by the Vigo County Park and Recreation Department.

Citizen support, from adults and children, and agreement of the small rural towns to donate land or enter into a long-term lease with the Park Department, are basic to the new program.

At Monday afternoon's meeting of the Park Board, several representatives from the Fontanet area, as well as a delegation from the Prairieton Community Development Club, were present.

A possible site at Fontanet is some 25 acres that has been used for the annual Bean Dinner. At Prairieton, a one-acre tract may be available for a recreation site.

Keith Ruble, county park superintendent, said that the board has been considering the Pilot Rural Program for several months but has taken no official action yet.

In explaining the proposed program, Ruble noted that some areas with none or limited recreational facilities are not getting any money back from their taxes, especially in the northern part of Vigo County, as most of the park development to date has been in the southern part.

Ruble submitted a phase proposal to the board Monday. The plan is set up in four phases by priority of the area and facilities recommended.

"Before any recreation improvement is done in each rural area, the support of the people is needed and a plan of action should be prepared for the Park Board for consideration. Some areas may fall into a couple of phases at this time, but when a plan is prepared for each area, based upon the individual community needs, we will know whether capital improvements will be necessary," the proposal states.

Based on the County Comprehensive Master Plan, Ruble has listed in phases the areas that should receive priorities for recreational improvement and some suggested facilities. In Phase IV, some areas that are questionable at this time because of the lack of information are included.

Ruble stressed that the plan is not complete, but is rather a plan of action in which the Park Board can see the recreational needs of void areas in Vigo County in priority order.

In Phase I, no additional monies required, are listed the site priorities:

—Fontanet, West Terre Haute, south and north; Ferguson Hill, New Goshen School House, St. Mary's Village, Prairieton, Lewis, Blackhawk and Riley.

Possible activities include: —baseball and softball, badminton, hi lo, wiffle and tether ball, hula hoop, frisbees, parachute games, jarts, group relay games, crafts and outdoor recreational activities such as bug catching, leaf and tree identification.

In Phase II, limited funds will be needed for non-permanent equipment; in Phase III, capital funds would be required, and in Phase IV, funds unknown at this time. Phase IV considers future expansion, and a possible separate study to determine need for recreation facilities in subdivisions.

Max Miller, Park Board president, conducted the monthly meeting. Other board members attending were Fox Burns, Everett Spence, Susan McCarthy and Boyd Schepper.

A recreation class from Indiana State University also was present.

In other business, the board approved the request for \$5,000 for restoration of the Pioneer village at Fowler Park, pending approval by the Vigo County Council at a future meeting.

Ruble and assistant superintendent Chey Burkeyby reported that about 2,000 people attended the second annual Pioneer Days festival at Fowler on Saturday, the first day, and about 5,000 on Sunday.

Reconstruction of a second log cabin at the park is progressing, Ruble said. These will form the nucleus of a planned pioneer village.

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Parks Development S OCT 17 1975 Urged By Schepper

Park's Recreation (Vigo Co)
There is a vital need to expand Vigo County's park system as soon as possible, particularly in the northern part of the county. Boyd Schepper, Republican candidate for county council from the fourth district, told The Star in an interview.

"The energy crisis will be with us for a long time, and with more and more leisure time, citizens will have to go places nearer home," Schepper stated. "The expansion of the park program should be carefully planned, with proper priorities."

Schepper also cited the poor condition of the county roads and lack of maintenance planning on the roads. He proposed a long-range planning program be initiated, which would lead to improved road system and much better transportation.

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"Our county roads are in such bad condition, I would propose and support an effort to assign 1975 revenue sharing funds to this very vital project," the GOP candidate declared. "The more important roads would receive first attention, as a logical approach to the problem."

The Vigo County Home is probably the best in western Indiana, according to Schepper. He credited the commissioners and council with foresight in providing adequate funds, and establishing an excellent home for the elderly. He also commended the management of the home very highly.

"We have excellent physical facilities in the H. Ralph Johnston Juvenile Center, but there is something lacking. We have spent a lot of money in staffing and operating the Center, and I wonder whether we are getting value received," Schepper remarked.

"It was established originally to be used by surrounding counties, as well as Vigo, only this hasn't been practiced and Vigo County taxpayers pay the total cost of operation. Today's conditions call for close scrutiny of government expenses, special program and project costs, and the Juvenile Center shouldn't be allowed to continue without checking on its expenditures."

The Republican county council aspirant called for council meetings to be held in the evening when taxpayers could attend. He explained that few citizens are able to attend cur-

rent meetings because they are during the day.

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Schepper suggested that the county arrange some type of transportation for the elderly and handicapped to important events.

The sheriff's department is in need of reorganization and expansion to provide rural patrol for protection of citizens outside the city limits. Schepper declared. He called attention to the increased instance of criminal activities in rural areas, including stealing of farm animals.

"There is a need for organized patrol of Vigo County on a 24-hour basis," he asserted. "The rural areas pose a special problem, and law enforcement is more difficult. I would approve funds for the expanded program if I were on the Council."

He also mentioned that the General Assembly in 1975 would probably raise the optional county income tax again as a tax issue, but that he would oppose levying such a tax on the citizens of Vigo County.

"My interest is in the tax-tax issue, but that he would oppose levying such a tax on the citizens of Vigo County."

"My interest is in the taxpayers of Vigo County, and the necessity of maintaining roads, projects and programs for the advancement and growth of the county," Schepper stated. "A county councilman must be available to the voters, to know what they want, how they feel about government proposals. I would be available and responsive to the taxpayers."

Schepper is chairman of the social studies department at Terre Haute North Vigo High School, and has been an intensive student of government.

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Park & Recreation (V)
THURSDAY, OCT. 24, 1974

(Viggo)
**Hunter Named
New Park
Board Member**
Community Affairs File

L. Schuman Hunter, former city clerk, has been appointed to the Park and Recreation Board for Terre Haute by Mayor William J. Brighton.

Hunter, 131 N. 35th St., will finish the unexpired term of William Moliken, 805 S. Center St., who recently resigned. The term will end in 1977.

The four-member Park and Recreation Board now is equally balanced with Democrat and Republican representatives with the appointment of Hunter, according to Mayor Brighton.

Hunter, who ended his term as city clerk on Jan. 1, 1972, ran on the Republican ticket. Lucile Enders, 132 N. 36th St., is the other Republican board member. Her term expires in 1976.

The Democrat members are President Kenneth Coy, 500 N. 25th St., and Lawrence Letzkus, 1923 S. 10th St. Coy's term expires in 1975 and Letzkus' term expires in 1978.

The Park and Recreation Board has been designated to be bi-partisan under the 1965 Park and Recreation Act. The act allows for two members of each party, all with staggering terms.

When Mayor Brighton took office in January of 1972, four Democratic board members were appointed for four-year terms. The act was not in effect in the city at that time. The City Council later voted to follow the 1965 act to allow the city to receive federal funds.

The four members on the board then were allowed to stay in their positions until their terms expired through an incumbency clause of the act. With the resignation of Moliken, the board has had the first opportunity to reach the bi-partisan position.

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Parks and Recreation (Vigo)

Session Topic

NOV

4 1974

Community Affairs File

Recreational resources in northeastern Vigo County will be the subject of a meeting next Monday, Nov. 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Fontanet Firehouse. Freeman Lemmons, chairman of the recently organized Nevins Township Recreational Committee, will be in charge of the meeting.

All interested members of the community are invited to attend the session, according to an announcement from Richard H. Biggs and Max G. Miller of the County Extension Office.

County Extension Service agents, in conjunction with the Vigo County Park Department, have been meeting with the public to review the recreational resources in Nevins and adjoining townships. Two such meetings have taken place to date, and the Recreation Committee formed.

Bill Herb was named vice chairman and Mrs. Marietta Cooper, secretary. The Committee has discussed various locations and ideas for the development of recreational programs and facilities in the northeastern portion of the county and, according to Biggs and Miller, the Fontanet Bean Dinner grounds is one of the possibilities.

Speakers at the Nov. 11 meeting will include Keith Rubie, superintendent of the Vigo County Park Department.

No public schools are in operation in Nevins township and the children are transported by bus to other schools in the Vigo County School Corporation.

In their announcement, the extension agents commented that the matter of a recreational facility in the northeastern part of the county "will affect all age groups" and interested residents were "invited to show (their) support to the Vigo County Park Board for a recreational project."

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Park Staff To Inspect Flowerbeds

T NOV 23 1974

Terre Haute Park and Recreation Department personnel will go to Kansas City Monday to study the possibility of implementing a new flower bed system in city parks.

The group will observe the Purr-Wick flowerbeds used in Kansas City parks and talk with the Kansas City park superintendent about their care, according to Patrick Dougherty, superintendent of the Terre Haute Park and Recreation Department.

The Purr Wick system, developed by a Purdue University professor, consists of a hole lined with vinyl and filled with sand. Flowers planted in the sand draw water up to their roots through wicking action. A gauge in the flower bed shows the water level.

Dougherty explained that such a system appears to be an improvement over the conventional flower bed because the necessity of constant watering is eliminated since the vinyl holds water. He said also weeds are controlled because what weeds that do get in the sand are easily removed.

Dougherty said the use of the Purr Wick system in Kansas City has been very successful. He said the system has also been utilized for vegetable gardens in which the produce has been greatly increased.

The Purr Wick system has been used on athletic fields and golf courses also. Dougherty explained the system does not prove as successful on golf courses because they are not flat. He said the Purr-Wick system would not be used on the new city golf course.

Park managers and park personnel will accompany Dougherty to study the system in Kansas City Monday.

City to Use New Type of Flowerbeds

By COLLEEN BLACKETEER

Tribune Staff Writer

Installation of a new type of flowerbeds in Deming Park and on the city boulevards will begin this winter, according to Pat Dougherty, superintendent of the Terre Haute Park and Recreation Department.

The city will change to Purr-Wick flowerbeds from the conventional flowerbeds at a nominal cost, Dougherty said.

The Purr-Wick flowerbed system, developed by a Purdue University professor, consists of a hole lined with vinyl and filled with sand. Flowers planted in the sand draw water up to their roots through wicking action. A gauge in the flower bed indicates the water level.

Dougherty said such a system is an improvement over the conventional flowerbeds because the necessity of constant watering is eliminated since the vinyl holds water. He said the nutrients are not lost through the soil because of this vinyl also. He explained that weeds are controlled too since what weeds do get in the sand are easily removed.

"The cost of the installation of the flowerbeds in comparison to the maintenance cost of our present flowerbeds is minimal," Dougherty said.

The main cost for the installation will be for the plastic and the sand, according to Dougherty. He said the present cost of

Continued On Page 2, Col. 6.

City to Use

Continued From Page One.

paying a man to work late to water the flowerbeds will be eliminated because the new type of flowerbeds can be watered anytime.

Dougherty, city park managers and other park personnel recently inspected the Purr-Wick flowerbed system as used in Kansas City.

Dougherty said the Purr-Wick flowerbeds have been very successful in that city. He said cannas grown in the regular flowerbeds of the city grew to four inches and the ones in the Purr-Wick flowerbeds grew to six inches. He added that during the last dry summer the Purr-Wick flowerbeds only had to be watered three times because the vinyl held the water.

The Purr-Wick flowerbeds used in Kansas City were modified from the Purr-Wick system invented at Purdue. Larry Runyan, superintendent of all the Kansas City golf courses, modified the original system for use in the city.

The Purr-Wick system has been used on athletic fields and golf courses also. Dougherty explained the system has not proven as successful on golf courses because they are not flat. He said the Purr-Wick system will not be used on the new city golf course.

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Community Affairs File

Six City Park Employees Attend Session

Six city park employees attended a two day equipment maintenance seminar in Indianapolis this week.

Attending the seminar Wednesday and Thursday were park managers and park maintenance employees.

At the seminar, instructions were given on the use of and the preventative maintenance for machinery.

Park and Recreation Department Superintendent Pat Dougherty explained proper maintenance is increasingly necessary with more complicated equipment. He said over the past year much new equipment has been purchased which needs proper maintenance.

Due to better equipment, which requires better maintenance, 16 less men are needed to do the department's work than in previous years, according to Dougherty.

The seminar at the Sheraton Inn in Indianapolis was sponsored by various equipment companies.

Park employees attending were John Palmer, director of maintenance; Nick Alenbaugh, Read Park manager; Ed Whitlock, Deming Park manager; Jim Middleton, Collett Park manager; Vic Clements, park maintenance, and Bruce Condon, park maintenance.

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